

**Amendments to the Claims:**

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of treating ~~mitochondrial disease~~MELAS comprising administering an agent comprising L-arginine and 0.2 to 20 parts by weight of L-ascorbic acid per 1 part by weight of L-arginine to a patient suffering from ~~mitochondrial disease~~MELAS.
2. (Currently Amended) The method of treating ~~mitochondrial disease~~MELAS according to claim 1, wherein L-ascorbic acid is contained in the agent in an amount of 0.2 to 6 parts by weight per 1 part by weight of L-arginine.
3. (Currently Amended) The method of treating ~~mitochondrial disease~~MELAS according to claim 2, wherein L-ascorbic acid is contained in the agent in an amount of 0.2 to 0.25 part by weight per 1 part by weight of L-arginine.
4. (Currently Amended) A method of treating ~~mitochondrial disease~~MELAS comprising administering to a patient suffering from ~~mitochondrial disease~~MELAS an agent comprising:  
\_\_\_\_\_ L-arginine;  
\_\_\_\_\_ at least one selected from the group consisting of ribonucleic acids, ribonucleotides and ribonucleosides;  
\_\_\_\_\_ 0.2 to 20 parts by weight of L-ascorbic acid per 1 part by weight of L-arginine.
5. (Currently Amended) The method of treating ~~mitochondrial disease~~MELAS according to claim 4, wherein L-ascorbic acid is contained in the agent in an amount of 0.2 to 6 parts by weight per 1 part by weight of L-arginine.
6. (Currently Amended) The method of treating ~~mitochondrial disease~~MELAS according to claim 5, wherein L-ascorbic acid is contained in the agent in an amount of 0.2 to

0.25 part by weight per 1 part by weight of L-arginine.

7. (Currently Amended) A method of treating ~~mitochondrial disease~~MELAS comprising administering to a patient suffering from ~~mitochondrial disease~~MELAS an agent comprising:

\_\_\_\_\_ L-arginine;

\_\_\_\_\_ 0.2 to 20 parts by weight of L-ascorbic acid per 1 part by weight of L-arginine; and

\_\_\_\_\_ containing no cysteine;

wherein L-arginine and L-ascorbic acid are dissolved in a pharmaceutically acceptable solution.

8. (Currently Amended) The method of treating ~~mitochondrial disease~~MELAS according to claim 7, wherein L-ascorbic acid is contained in the agent in an amount of 0.2 to 6 parts by weight per 1 part by weight of L-arginine.

9. (Currently Amended) The method of treating ~~mitochondrial disease~~MELAS according to claim 8, wherein L-ascorbic acid is contained in the agent in an amount of 0.2 to 0.25 part by weight per 1 part by weight of L-arginine.